USSN: 09/728,423 Attv. Dkt. No.: PP01618.003

2300-1618

## PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Examiner: M. Hill

HOUGHTON et al. Group Art Unit: 1648

Serial No.: 09/728,423 Confirmation No.: 3252

Filing Date: December 1, 2000

Title: ELICITING HCV-SPECIFIC ANTIBODIES

## AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

This paper accompanies the request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and addresses the Final Office Action mailed March 13, 2006. An extension of time in which to respond is requested and the requisite fee accompanies this response. Applicants request reconsideration of the above-referenced patent application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.